



Roundabout - Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy

Roundabout is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of all its clients.

Roundabout fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding. For the purpose of this document 'staff' includes all employed staff, self-employed dramatherapists working with Roundabout, trustees and volunteers. Everyone working with and for Roundabout must be aware that the safety of the children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Roundabout's projects is given the highest priority. This policy focuses on vulnerable adults. Please see Roundabout's Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy.

All staff should be aware that any vulnerable adult could be the victim of abuse or be at risk of being abused, and understand their duty to refer information to the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (2006 Act).

As most of Roundabout's work with vulnerable adults takes place within the framework of another organisation, a fundamental element of Roundabout's Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Policy (SVAP) is that Roundabout will not facilitate projects with such an organisation unless they have a suitable policy in place. Therefore, staff working with vulnerable adults within the framework of another organisation must familiarise themselves with - and follow - the appropriate Policy of that organisation.

If no appropriate policy is in place, staff should inform Roundabout immediately. Roundabout will then contact the organisation for clarification. As stated above, if no policy is in place, the work will not continue. However, if Roundabout is running a project with an individual or group where no governing body is involved, then Roundabout will implement its own SVAP, which will be shared with the purchaser.

In addition, staff should be aware of Roundabout's own SVAP and any member of staff working directly with Vulnerable Adults should complete safeguarding training every two years.

Safeguarding Adults refers to any person aged over 18 years who is at risk of psychological, emotional or sexual abuse, coercive control, physical injury, neglect, financial abuse, modern slavery, or exploitation because they are unable to take care of themselves and unable to protect themselves because of disability, mental health issues, age or illness. In addition, a 'vulnerable adult' may also be someone who is at risk of harm or exploitation because of their role as a carer or because of their family responsibilities.

Recognition that a vulnerable adult is the victim of abuse can come from a number of factors:

- Depression, self-harm or suicide attempts
- Difficulty making friends
- Fear or anxiety
- The person looks dirty or is not dressed properly
- The person never seems to have money
- The person has an injury that is difficult to explain (such as bruises, finger marks on neck, shoulders, chest and arms etc)
- The person has signs of a pressure ulcer
- The person is experiencing insomnia
- The person seems frightened, or frightened of physical contact
- Inappropriate sexual awareness or sexually explicit behaviour
- The person is withdrawn, or shows changes in behaviour
- The person shows that they are feeling disturbed through how they might draw or write

Designated Persons. There are two Designated Persons in Roundabout, to whom all concerns regarding Vulnerable Adult protection should be reported. These are the Chief Executive Officers, Deborah Haythorne and Lynn Cedar. In addition, all staff should be aware of the Designated Person at each centre where projects involving vulnerable adults take place. This should be clear in the SVAP of that centre, which should be studied by the relevant Dramatherapists. The Dramatherapists working on a project, and one of Roundabout's CEOs, will liaise with the centre's Designated Person, to ensure that suitable action is taken.

Actions required by the Dramatherapist who has become aware of a possible case of vulnerable adult abuse:

- Take the issue to the Designated SVAP Person at the centre.
- Report the matter to the Roundabout CEOs immediately.
- Where working within the framework of another organisation the Dramatherapists should follow any requirements additional to those of the Roundabout SVAP.
- Always pay careful attention to what a vulnerable adult is saying because, if this should raise concerns about vulnerable adult abuse, all such details will need to be reported. Similarly, keep session notes of relevant sessions carefully.
- Dramatherapists should not investigate any possible case of vulnerable adult abuse themselves. This will be done by the authorities, once the concerns have been reported.
- Dramatherapists must not comment on a possible SVAP case except through official channels.
- If a Dramatherapist has concerns about the organisation within which they are working they must report these to the CEOs. They will take the matter - in the first place - to the purchaser and will then follow this up

- by contacting the appropriate authority, such as social services or police.
- Where Roundabout is the designated SVAP person then the Dramatherapist involved will report this to the CEOs.

The Prevent Duty

Under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Roundabout is mindful of the 'Prevent duty', which highlights the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

A core element of the Prevent Duty is ensuring that Roundabout staff are appropriately trained to correctly recognise the signs that someone is at risk of radicalisation, which may increase their risk of engagement with terrorism. (For further information please see Appendix *Prevent Duty*)

GDPR – Amendment re: Safeguarding

Roundabout acknowledges that a safeguarding amendment (85) to the Data Protection Bill adopted by the House of Commons Public Bill Committee on 13 March 2018, allows for the processing of special category personal data – without consent if the circumstances justify it – where it is in the substantial public interest, and necessary for the purpose of:

1. protecting an individual from neglect or physical, mental or emotional harm;
or
2. protecting the physical, mental or emotional well-being of an individual where that individual is a child or an adult at risk.

Recruitment re: Safeguarding

Please see Roundabout's Recruitment Policy

Contact Details

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Appendix

Prevent Duty

Under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Roundabout is mindful of the 'Prevent duty', which highlights the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

A core element of the Prevent Duty is ensuring that Roundabout staff are appropriately trained to correctly recognise the signs that someone is at risk of radicalisation, which may increase their risk of engagement with terrorism.

Recognition. Professional judgement will always need to be exercised in assessing a person's vulnerability to becoming radicalised. To support this, the following indicators, which are based on interviews with individuals convicted of terrorist offences, are aimed to support professionals to identify those who are at risk of radicalisation. These factors may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Behaviour becoming increasingly centred on extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Loss of interest in other friends and activities not associated with an extremist ideology, group or cause.
- Identifying another group as threatening what they stand for and blaming that group for all social or political ills.
- Expressing attitudes that justify offending on behalf of the group, cause or ideology.
- Condoning or supporting violence or harm towards others.

Actions. Team members should:

- Be aware of, and be able to locate, available support, including the Channel Programme where necessary.
- Correctly recognise exploitation of vulnerable individuals who have been or are at risk of being radicalised.
- Understand the organisational policies, escalation procedures and processes in place through which they can raise concerns and share information, and who to contact.
- Balance patient confidentiality with their professional duty to safeguard against the risk of radicalisation.
- Regularly refresh their Prevent knowledge and understanding.

As a minimum, all staff must undertake basic Prevent awareness training as part of a mandatory e-learning or safeguarding training.

There is no single way of identifying who is likely to be vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Recognising that someone is at risk of radicalisation is complex and sensitive and in any scenario the circumstances and vulnerabilities will be as unique as the individual themselves. The decision as

to whether to make a referral is no different to other safeguarding concerns, and team members should exercise their judgement on a case-by case basis and liaise with their line manager. Often the factors that have a bearing on someone becoming vulnerable to radicalisation are similar to other safeguarding vulnerabilities, which may include: peer pressure, influence from other people or via the internet, bullying, crime against the person or involvement in crime, anti-social behaviour, family tensions, race/hate crime, lack of self-esteem or identity and personal or political grievances.

Considering the possibility of radicalisation as an early intervention safeguarding consideration could serve to ensure that the individual is offered the support they require.

This duty sits alongside the broader safeguarding issues Roundabout has outlined above, especially in terms of risk assessment and working in partnership with key staff.